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GOLF TRAINING MAT

Cross-Reference to Related Application

- [01] This application claims the benefit of PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/KR03/02177, filed on October 17, 2003, under 35 U.S.C. §371.

Field of the Invention

- [02] The present invention relates to a golf practice mat used for placement of golf balls for practice hitting. The golf practice mat includes various inclined portions upon which the golf ball can be easily placed.

Background Art

- [03] A conventional golf practice mat is formed of an artificial turf on a supporting mat made by rubber or synthetic resin or is formed of an artificial turf in a portion to be located a golf ball on a supporting mat made by rubber. In both cases, the golf ball is placed on a flat region of the artificial turf.
- [04] On an actual golf course, there are flat areas and inclined areas. In case of hitting the golf ball from an inclined area, a golf player generally chops with an iron club or pushes with a wood club. However, a conventional golf practice mat is not generally designed for practicing an iron or a wood club.
- [05] That is, since the conventional golf practice mat for placing a golf ball is maintained with a flat portion and the mat does not have an irregular or inclined area like a real golf course, the conventional golf practice mat is not effective for simulating play on an actual golf course.

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Disclosure of the Invention

[06] It is therefore an object of the present invention to improve a golf practice mat for practicing hitting on various inclined portions upon which golf balls can be easily placed.

[07] According to an embodiment of the present invention, a golf practice mat includes a base mat, a bottom plate on the base mat, a receiving frame inserted on a portion of the base mat and the bottom plate, an artificial turf plate on the filling material, and artificial turf on the artificial turf plate. The receiving frame includes a tee-shot practice portion formed of a flat shape and an inclined practice portion filled with a filling material formed of a concaved shape. The artificial turf over the inclined practice portion includes a plurality of golf ball placing portions for placing a golf ball on the inclined practice portion. The golf ball placing portions are continuously formed on the inclined practice portion in a radial direction.

Brief Description of Drawings

[08] The above objects and other advantages of the present invention will become more apparent by describing in detail preferred embodiments thereof with reference to the attached drawings in which:

[09] Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a golf practice mat according to an embodiment of the present invention;

[10] Fig. 2 is a plan view of a golf practice mat according to an embodiment of the present invention;

[11] Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken along an A-A line in Fig. 2;

[12] Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken along a B-B line in Fig. 2;

- [13] Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken along an A-A line in Fig. 2 having a golf ball placing portion;
- [14] Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken along a B-B line in Fig. 2 having a golf ball placing portion;
- [15] Fig. 7 is an enlarging view of a golf ball placing portion;
- [16] Fig. 8 is a plan view of an artificial turf mat showing a golf ball placing portion;
and
- [17] Fig. 9 is another embodiment of the present invention showing a golf ball placing portion.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

- [18] Hereinafter, preferred embodiments of the present invention will be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings. It should be noted that like reference numerals are used for designation of like or equivalent parts or portion for simplicity of illustration and explanation.
- [19] The present invention relates to a golf practice mat including a flat portion and an inclined portion so that a variety of practices can be possible by using the golf practice mat.
- [20] Fig. 1 shows a perspective view of a golf practice mat according to an embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the golf practice mat according to an embodiment of the present invention.
- [21] Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, the golf practice mat includes a base mat 11 formed of rubber or synthetic resin, an artificial turf mat 20 on a substantial middle portion of the base mat 11, and a bottom plate 12 to fix the artificial turf mat 20 on the base mat 11. That is, the artificial turf mat 20 is located inside of a portion of the bottom plate 12 and can be

fixed on the base mat 11 or detached from the base mat 11. According to an embodiment of the present invention, the artificial turf mat 20 includes a tee-shot practice portion 20 having a flat portion and an inclined practice portion 25, the inclined practice portion 25 includes a golf ball placing portion like a groove (shown in Figs. 5, 6, and 7) for safely stopping a golf ball 5 on the inclined practice portion 25.

[22] According to an embodiment of the present invention, the golf practice mat can further include a golf ball supplier 13 on a right side or on a left side of the artificial turf mat 11 and the location of the golf ball supplier 13 depends on a righty or a lefty. The golf practice mat can further include at least one advertisement portion 15 or 16 on the bottom plate 12.

[23] Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken along an A-A line in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken along a B-B line in Fig. 2.

[24] Referring to Figs. 3 and 4, the artificial turf mat 20 includes a receiving frame 21 formed of rubber or synthetic resin and shaped a substantial rectangle, a filling material 22 for filling inside of the receiving frame 21 which is formed of rubber or the like and has a flat or a curved shape, and an artificial turf plate 31 planted with artificial turf 32 for covering on the filling material 22.

[25] The tee-shot practice portion 24 is formed at one side of the artificial turf mat 20 and the inclined practice portion 25 is formed at the other side of the artificial turf mat 20. The tee-shot practice portion 24 has a substantially flat shape and the inclined portion 25 having various shapes is inclined into a center direction. The tee-shot practice portion 24 can further include a tee-inserting portion (not shown) for inserting a tee (not shown) for placing a golf ball on the tee. The tee-shot practice portion 24 can further include a golf ball supplying portion (not shown) having a hole to supply a golf ball through a bottom

when a golf ball supplier having a tee is used for supplying a golf ball on the tee from a bottom.

[26] According to an embodiment of the present invention, the artificial turf mat 20 can be inserted in the base mat 11 or detached from the base mat 11. After inserting the artificial turf mat 20 into the base mat 11, the bottom plate 12 covers the receiving frame 21, and the bottom plate 12 and the receiving frame 21 are fixed by using a fixing part 27 such as a screw, a nail, and the like. The filling material 22 is formed of soft material such as rubber, synthetic resin, and the like so that an impact is adsorbed when a golf club or a driver hits the filling material 22.

[27] Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken along an A-A line in Fig. 2 having the golf ball placing portion, Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken along a B-B line in Fig. 2 having the golf ball placing portion, and Fig. 7 is an enlarging view of the golf ball placing portion.

[28] Referring to Figs. 5, 6, and 7, the artificial turf mat 20 further includes a golf ball placing portion 30 for safely placing the ball on the inclined portion of the artificial turf mat 20. According to an embodiment of the present invention, the golf ball placing portion 30 is formed of short artificial turf compared to adjacent portion.

[29] Fig. 8 is a plan view of the artificial turf mat showing the golf ball placing portion and Fig. 9 another plan view of the artificial turf mat showing the golf ball placing portion. As shown in Figs. 8 and 9, the golf ball placing portion 30 can be formed on inclined practice portion 25. The golf ball placing portion 30 can be the shape of one line or two lines as shown in Fig. 8 or can be the shape of several holes or grooves as shown in Fig. 9. The ball placing portion 30 can be made by cutting some portions of the artificial turf, but not limited to include other manufacturing methods. It is appreciated that the shape of the golf ball placing portion 30 is not limited as described here, but includes any shape which

can safely place the golf ball.

[30] Referring back to Fig. 1, the advertisement portion 16 is upwardly disposed at a rear portion to be easily seen from a player's the location display portion 14.

[31] The golf practice mat is formed by inserting the artificial turf mat 20 in a portion of the base mat 11 and fixing the bottom plate 12 on the receiving frame 21 by using the fixing part 27. When a player starts to practice on the location display portion 14, the player can see the inclined installed advertisement portion 16 so that an advertisement effect is improved.

[32] According to an embodiment of the present invention, the tee-shot practice portion 24 for practicing a tee-shot is flat like a real golf course so that the tee-shot practice can be similar to a game in the real golf course.

[33] Further, when a player practices an iron club or a wood, if the practice is on a flat region, the practice is different from the practicing in the real golf course having curved or irregular portion. However, as the golf practice mat according to an embodiment of the present invention, includes a inclined practice region 25, the practice is similar to the practice in the real golf course by using an iron club or a wood. The inclined practice portion 25 includes various types of inclined region directed from an up-front to a rear-end, from a rear-end to the up-front, from a left side to a right side, and from a right side to a left side, so that various types of practice can be done.

[34] Furthermore, the golf ball placing portion 30 is formed on the inclined practice portion 25 so that a golf ball can be easily stopped on the inclined portion.

[35] The golf ball placing portion 30 can be formed of continuous one line or two lines as shown in Figs. 8 and 9. As the golf ball 5 is not easy to place on an inclined region, if the golf ball is placed on the inclined region, it can be within a scope of an embodiment of

the present invention.

[36] Although illustrative embodiments of the present invention have been described herein with reference to the accompanying drawings, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to those precise embodiments, and that various other changes and modifications may be affected therein by one skilled in the art without departing from the scope or spirit of the invention.

Industrial Applicability

[37] Therefore, the golf ball can be easily placed in an inclined portion of the golf practice mat for utilizing in a real game by forming the golf practice mat having various inclining types because a surface of a real golf course is not flat but inclined.